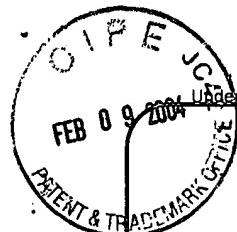


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		Application Number	09/293,297
		Filing Date	04-16-1999
		First Named Inventor	Shawn P. McAllister, et al.
		Art Unit	2663
		Examiner Name	Duong, Duc T.
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	5	Attorney Docket Number	1400.9801200

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance communication to Group
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached	<input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences
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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> After Final	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application	<input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information
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<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application		
<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53		
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SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT	
Firm or Individual name	Ross D. Snyder, Reg. No. 37,730
Signature	
Date	02/03/04

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PATENT
#10
2/18/04
D.

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Shawn P. McAllister, et al.

Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR SUPPORTING CONNECTION
TYPE PARTITIONING IN A COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK

App. No.: 09/293,297 Filed: 04-16-1999

Examiner: Duong, Duc T. Group Art Unit: 2663

Atty. Dkt. No. 1400.9801200

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RESPONSE

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office action of 12-03-2003, Applicant submits the following response:

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-34 are pending. The Examiner has rejected claims 1-17, 19-31, 33, and 34. The Examiner has objected to claims 18 and 32. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of pending claims 1-34.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-17, 19-31, 33, and 34 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bertin et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,687,167) in view of Tooker et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,446,079 B2). Applicant respectfully disagrees.

Regarding claims 1, 12, and 23, Applicant respectfully disagrees. In the Response to Arguments, the Examiner states, "Though in this case, the suggestion is not mentioned in Tooker, but is it understand to one of skill in the art using the SVCs and SPVCs links in ATM or frame relay network enable the network to setup a connections on-demand without the aid of a centrally management platform and are thus, more robust and efficient than PVCs." The Examiner does not cite